electronic organisation, who is a private sector industrialist and is simultaneously the Chairman of the Electronics Commission made a public statement as reported on 16th March, 1988 by major newspapers denouncing the role of public sector organisations; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYNAN): (a) and (b) The Chairman of Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporatilon (ET&T) did not issue a public statement denouncing the role of public sector organisations. He only expressed his view that the Government should leave the industry to the private sector wherever open competition is possible without any props from the Government.

Orders placed by the ET&T

4392. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the ET&T placed an order for Rs. 15 lakhs for development of a colour T.V. set to a private sector company, the COSMIC Group of Bombay, when ET&T is developing its own colour T.V. technology ; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the owner of the COSMIC Group has been appointed Chairman of another public sector organisation, *viz.* M/s. GCEL of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) The design and development of 51 cms Colour TV was done by ET&T by sub-contracting a portion of its developmental efforts to M/s. Cosmic of Bombay. Against a Budget provision of Rs. 15 lakhs an amount of Rs. 10 lakhs was paid to M/s Cosmic towards reimbursement of developmental expenditure undertaken by them for the 51 cms Colour TV sets.

(b) A partner of the Cosmic Radio is the Chairman of M/s. Gujarat Communications and Electroncs Ltd. a Government of Gujarat Company.

Project for Manufacturing Optical Fibres

@4393. SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the project of Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation for manu facturing 20,000 kms per year of Optical fibres in technical collaboration with Furukwa of Japan has run into trouble because of Furukwa's inability to transfer technology to India on account of objections from Patentholder, Corning Glass of USA;

(b) what are the details of the Progress of implementation of the projects; and

(c) whether Government propose to permit the setting up of additional units for the manufacture of this vital telecommunication cable to help the mocernisation programme of telecommunication ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYNAN): (a) No, Sir.

@Previously Unstarred Question 3558, transferred from the 29th August, 1988